

23 January 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Intelligence Assistant Directors

SUBJECT : Intelligence Communications

1. A number of recent developments have brought the problem of communications to the fore in planning. The Killian Committee has recommended that intelligence communications should be improved so that by June of 1958 all critical intelligence, particularly that relating to early warning, would be transmitted from the field to action officials in Washington within 10 minutes. Both USCIB and the IAC have been considering this problem and a new NSCID on communications has been drafted which calls on the OGC, with the assistance of the IAC agencies, to formulate the requirements of the intelligence community for communications.

2. I will undoubtedly be in touch with some of you in the near future on specific matters related to this problem. In the meantime, however, I would like to get your views concerning the matter of the ultimate communications system towards which we should be working. I have attached a draft of a paper which describes one possible way in which a considerable improvement in our communications system could be achieved. I have been told that there may very well be technical solutions which would be even more effective than some of those suggested in this draft. A preliminary study of the volume of material coming into OGC suggests that aside from those communications already handled by NSA the system might have to provide for the transmission of something on the order of 26 million words per day.

3. I would appreciate your comments on this problem by 7 February 1958. I would like particularly to have your views on the type and volume of information that you feel should be received by you within a matter of minutes or hours after the event. I would also like an indication from you of the type of information and volume that you feel you should receive within 24 hours, as well as an indication of the type and volume of information which you receive but which in your opinion is not effected by the time factor and could continue to be transmitted by ordinary courier.

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Attachment

ODD/I:WATidwell:imc Dist: 1-AD/RR; CR; CI; BI; NE; OO; SI; 1-DDI; 2-WAT
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